(b) if so, the reasons apart from appreciation of rupee;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government has not fixed any export target for the current year *i.e.* 2008-09; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Exports of textiles and clothing during 2007-08 was of the order US $ 22.13 billion against the target of US $ 25.06 billion.

(b) During the year 2007-08, exports of textiles had adversely been affected by, *inter-alia*, recessionary trends in the USA which is the single largest destination for India's textiles exports, erosion of cost competitiveness of India's exporters due to high input and transaction costs as well as appreciation of the Indian Rupee *vis-a-vis* the US dollar.

(c) Government has fixed the target for export of textiles for 2008-09 at 20% over the actual performance in 2007-08 and the target, in real terms for the current year, is thus set at US $ 26.55 billion.

(d) Question doesn't arise.

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12.00 **Noon**

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS CORRECTING ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the Statement correcting the answer to Unstarred Question 683 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st July, 2006 regarding Equipment for weather forecasts. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 0350/08]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the Statements correcting the answers to Unstarred Questions 559 and 560 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd October, 2008 regarding Lack of IT Technology for Fighting Cyber Crimes and Shortage of Police Personnel for Tackling Terror and Crime respectively. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 0351/08]

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MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA

The Science and Engineering Research Board Bill, 2008

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha:—

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Science and Engineering Research